

first week or two because I began to feel a sense of assurance that the general sentiment in favor of the work would bring the necessary money. One time I wrote a personal letter to the pastors intending to have it manifold, and mail it to each pastor, but a very slight hindrance prevented me from doing that, now behold the results to-day! About a thousand dollars more than we called for. The Lord has done it! It was right for me to feel my responsibility in the matter, but I might have saved myself from much anxiety in the matter by simply committing it to God in prayer, after I had done what it was necessary for me to do. It was necessary for me to decide on the purchase. I was responsible for making the fact of the purchase known to the brotherhood, and for other duties connected with the work, but not for the success of the work. So it will be with you here in continuing and expanding the work so well, and favorably begun. You need to feel your individual and collective responsibility, attend to such duties as devolve upon you. Make the whole world your objective missionary field, live very close to God, and trust Him for success, if you do this success is due you in His own way. We do much worrying, and fretting, and fearing all to no purpose. The children of Israel fretted for forty years and many of them died. When, if they had trusted God, the walls of Jericho might have fallen forty years sooner just as easily.

Let us remember the text and the context: "All power is given to me in heaven and in earth." Go ye, therefore and teach all nations * * * and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." If we want to be missionaries abroad we must be missionaries at home. We may think that the work moves slow, and yet it moves! There is some point over on the Eastern shore of Maryland we have a small weak church, a missionary point of our Philadelphia church, not yet able to sustain itself, but it is the home church of our Sister Detwiler, already a potent factor in our general church work, and a candidate for the foreign field. Up at Allen town we have a spiritually strong, but poor church, but in that church we have a young sister that occupies the pulpit very acceptable every other Lord's day. Just so there will be fruits from your work, especially if you commit your ways unto the Lord. May his blessings be upon you.

HOW MAKE THE PRAYER MEETING INTERESTING TO A LARGER NUMBER.

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The onward march of progress should be the watch-word of every Christian church and home. Where the banner of freedom has been unfurled to the breeze, thru the sacrifices of those loving live as well as we; there let the gratitude of the human soul pour out its supplications to the beneficent heavenly Father, for the glory that surrounds our existence. May every heart, every home, every community as well as every or-

ganization bow in humble supplication and homage to him that doeth all things well, remembering the time when the rights of religious freedom were held in abeyance; when men would gladly have taken down the dear old Bible and engaged their thoughts in divine worship at the family altar or the social prayer meeting. But the sacred volume had been consigned to the flames, and the bane of death at the stake pronounced upon its devotees.

When the mother has full and plenty for the wants of her children they scarcely appreciate the blessing. But should she fail, then the last crust of bread will be sought with a relish. So, as long as every thing is prosperous, amid the present activity many do not regard with appreciation the bountiful provision that has been made for growth and development in the divine life.

Men and women unite with God's people, vowing to live true and faithful until death, and after a few short months are conspicuous for their absence. The business man can not spare time from his bank or store; the lawyer is too much engrossed with his client; the doctor with his patient, while the young folks absent themselves for the social club, the ball, the dance or the theater. How exultent indeed, must be the emissaries of Satan as they gloat over their prospective victory. If this kind of religious indifference must be continued it is well perhaps, there is the bottomless pit. Hence the necessity of pastors to look after the spiritual welfare of the flock, the first important step to secure interest in this part of church work. The pastor, then, must feel his need of this service. Every deacon and every other office of the church should be inspired with the same feeling. By their united effort, the effusion of wholesome thought for spiritual growth will draw those born of the Spirit to the house of worship. If we would influence others we must be interested ourselves. Pity the pastor that must suffer the pangs of defeat, when he fails to rally a respectable number even of his flock, at the mid-week service.

Some one hath said that "The Prayer-meeting is the thermometer of the church." As the spirit strives to lead into all truth those connected with the great cause of salvation, either we are hot or cold, or degenerated into that undesirable state of being, lukewarm. Sad, indeed, if any within the sound of this discussion have thus permitted themselves to become dwarfed. Then would we be effectual workers in the vineyard of the Lord, and finally receive the reward for faithful service, it is evident that neither cold nor lukewarm, but hot must be our condition. It follows, then, that another essential for interest in the prayer-meeting is to be imbued with the Holy Spirit. That we have buried the old man and arisen to walk in newness of life. As like produces like, while we existed in the bondage of sin, we fed upon the forbidden fruit of this world, which culminated in death. So, would we

live with Christ, we must drink at the Fountain, deep and oft, must have a hungering and thirsting after righteousness that we may be filled.

The Prayer-meeting, to fill this requirement must disseminate meat for the hungry and the living water for the thirsty. It is not enough to sing and pray, and tell how we enjoy the service of the Master, or relate our short comings and extol our triumphs, but carefully prepared instruction, from the word of God, should be meted out.

It is here that the distinctive doctrines of the church should be impressed upon, especially, the young and tender ones of the flock. No pastor can afford to leave this golden opportunity pass by. Let him occasionally announce from the pulpit his purpose to give a short talk upon some live topic, or at times appoint some gifted one of the congregation to relieve him of the duty. Work for one, work for all should be constantly kept in view. Some one has put out the idea that "Hobby riders" should be discouraged. But, we would faver not to discourage any one. Too much discouragement in the battle of life, without receiving it in the Prayer-meeting. It is here, that we should, at least, tolerate each others presence, if we cannot endorse every whim.

Variety for the physical requirements is the most preferable and nourishing, and to meet the varied tastes should be provided in every home. While some like pie and cake, others prefer to do without either. A preacher was once heard to say from the pulpit, "I don't like pie." At another time at a well filled table, a little girl of the house insisted on having nothing but pie, being denied this, she proceeded to pout. So many people pout when they can't have every thing their own way. Some persons won't go to Prayer-meeting because others tell their experience, while a few stay at home for fear of being called upon to pray.

We should forget our preference and grant others the same right we claim ourselves. Our needs may not be our brother's needs, hence, to vary the exercises will serve to interest the greatest number. The young, the middle aged and the old, each should be taken care of in this service. A junior choir might be organized, which in time would prove an advantage in filling vacancies in the choir of the congregation. The young men and women might to be called upon to render some favorite production of music or recitation, and to lead in short prayer, while the older ones exhort and pray for the success of Zion. Each should be made to feel the importance of his or her presence and sought to take part in the exercises of the evening. The necessity of communing with the Father in prayer, both in the secret closet and at the family altar, should be impressed upon every child of God. Visits by the pastor will serve to stimulate this, and once accomplished the prayer meeting will be ever accorded their support and be a place of interest to such at all times.